

Eon	Era	Period	Epoch		Life Forms	N. American Tectonics	
Phanerozoic (Phaneros = "evident", zoic = "life")	Cenozoic	Quaternary	Recent, or Holocene	Age of Mammals	Modern man	Cascade volcanoes	
			0.01- Pleistocene		Extinction of large mammals and birds	Worldwide glaciation	
		Tertiary	1.6- Pliocene		Large carnivores	Uplift of Sierra Nevada	
			5.3- Miocene		Whales and apes	Linking of N. & S. America	
			23.7- Oligocene			Basin-and-Range Extension	
			36.6- Eocene				
			57.8- Paleocene		Early primates	Laramide orogeny ends (West)	
			66.4				
	Mesozoic	Cretaceous		Age of Dinosaurs	<b>Mass extinctions</b>	Laramide orogeny (West)	
					Placental mammals	Sevier orogeny (West)	
		Jurassic			Early flowering plants	Nevadan orogeny (West)	
			208- Triassic		First mammals	Elko orogeny (West)	
	Paleozoic	Permian		Age of Amphibians	Flying reptiles	Breakup of Pangea begins	
					First dinosaurs	Sonoma orogeny (West)	
			245			<b>Mass extinctions</b>	Supercontinent Pangea intact
					Coal-forming forests diminish	Ouachita orogeny (South)	
		Pennsylvanian	286-	Fishes	Alleghenian (Appalachian)	Antler orogeny (West)	
			320-		Coal-forming swamps	Acadian orogeny (East-NE)	
		Mississippian	360-	Marine Invertebrates	Sharks abundant		
			408-		Variety of insects		
		Devonian	438-		First amphibians		
			505-		First reptiles		
		Silurian			<b>Mass extinctions</b>		
	First forests (evergreens)						
Ordovician		First land plants					
		<b>Mass extinctions</b>					
Cambrian		First primitive fish					
		Trilobite maximum					
		Rise of corals					
		Early shelled organisms					
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